

LYNCHBURG CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE: **September 26, 2006, Work Session**

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 5

CONSENT:

REGULAR: **X**

CLOSED SESSION:

(Confidential)

ACTION: **X**

INFORMATION:

ITEM TITLE: **Breezewood Drive; City Project No. T0051**

RECOMMENDATION: Approval of the attached resolution to authorize the City staff to submit construction drawings to Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) for approval.

SUMMARY:

A public hearing has been held on this project for the final design and location and responses to those comments are included in this package. The construction drawings are 100 percent complete and staff is ready to submit a package to the CTB for approval. We anticipate beginning acquiring ROW needed for this project in January and advertise for construction this Spring. The project estimate is \$5,648,000 which includes \$3,585,000 for construction, \$822,000 for engineering, and \$741,000 for right-of-way and easement acquisitions, and \$500,000 for utilities. An additional appropriation of State Urban funds is needed to cover the \$2.716 million deficit in the funding. This project is funded totally by the State with a two percent match by the City. Currently, VDOT has the project funded at \$5.028 million. The additional state funding of \$0.60 million will come from the Mid Town connector phase 2. Of the amount the City has appropriated, \$400,000 is city capital money to meet our required two percent match of \$112,960.

PRIOR ACTION(S):

Nov, 14, 2000 - Council heard report on project; adopted a resolution appropriating \$1,377,000.

Feb., 3, 2004 PDC- Committee heard update and three proposed alignments for project.

June 13, 2004 - Council heard three alignment options for extension, history of project and input from public; deferred voting on alignment until Aug. 10, 2004 special session.

June 22, 2004 special session- Council heard update on project; two alignments and approve staff conducting a public hearing on the two alignments.

Aug., 10, 2004 special session- Council heard report reviewing the two alignments; voted and approved Alternative alignment #1.

Jan. 25, 2005 PDC- Committee heard update on project status

July 11, 2006 PDC- Committee heard update on project status

Council appropriated \$30,000 in the '99 Capital Budget, \$410,000 in the '05 Capital Budget, and \$2,877,568 in the '06 Capital Budget.

FISCAL IMPACT:

SOURCE	APPROPRIATION	SPENT TO DATE	BALANCE
Breezewood Drive	\$3,281,565.20	\$390,074.33	\$2,891,490.87

CONTACT(S):

Dee Dee Conner, PE 455-3928

Lee Newland, PE 455-3947

ATTACHMENT(S):

Response to Public Hearing Comments- Letter to VDOT

REVIEWED BY: lkp

RESOLUTION:

LOCATION AND DESIGN
PUBLIC HEARING APPROVAL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, a Location and Design Public Hearing was conducted on August 8, 2006, in the City of Lynchburg by representatives of the city and VDOT after due and proper notice for the purpose of considering the proposed location and design of Breezewood Drive, Project U000-118-123, PE-101, RW-201, C-501, UPC 52097 in the City of Lynchburg, at which hearing drawings and other pertinent information were made available for public inspection in accordance with state requirements; and

WHEREAS, all persons and parties in attendance were afforded full opportunity to participate in said public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Council had previously requested the Virginia Department of Transportation to program this project; and

WHEREAS, the Council considered all such matters; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Lynchburg hereby approves the location and design of the proposed project as presented at the Public Hearing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Lynchburg will acquire all rights of way necessary for this project and certify same to the Department at the appropriate time.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute, on behalf of the City of Lynchburg, all necessary railroad and utility agreements required in conjunction with acquiring such rights of way.

Adopted:

Certified:

Clerk of Council

RESOLUTION:

BE IT RESOLVED that the FY 07 CIP budget is amended and \$2,716,000 is appropriated to the City Capital Projects Fund, project number T0051, with full reimbursement from VDOT to extend and improve the existing Breezewood Drive.

Introduced:

Adopted:

Certified:

Clerk of Council

121L1

Date

Mr. William T. Ramey, PE
Virginia Department of Transportation
4219 Campbell Avenue
Lynchburg, VA 24501

RE: Breezewood Drive
Project – U000-118-123, PE101,RW201, C501
Location and Design Public Hearing
City of Lynchburg
City Project Number T0051

Dear Mr. Ramey:

The Combined Location and Design Public Hearing for the above referenced project was held at the Heritage High School (3020 Wards Ferry Road) on Tuesday, August 8, 2006, between 5:00 PM and 7:00 PM.

This project is to improve existing Breezewood Drive from 0.51 Mi. south of the intersection of Route 501 to the Route 501 intersection and to extend Breezewood Drive to Route 221 (Lakeside Drive) in the City of Lynchburg. The project also includes the addition of an acceleration lane for right turns from Breezewood Drive to Route 501, and the closing of the existing left turn lane and crossover on Route 501 at Breezewood Drive. A right turn lane from Route 221 to Breezewood Drive is also included. The anticipation of development along the corridor and existing safety concerns along the corridor necessitate these improvements.

The majority of the project is two-lane divided roadway with a center two-way turn lane. The predominant typical section consists of 11-foot travel lanes with curb and gutter. A 10-foot sidewalk will be provided on the west side of the roadway. In addition to the reconstruction and extension of the existing road, the project also addresses the replacement of inadequate drainage structures and the addition of storm water management facilities. Construction will require a minimum of 60-foot of right-of-way and associated easements. The proposed alignment and pavement design will meet state guidelines for construction of roads designated as Urban Collector (GS-7) with a minimum design speed of 30 MPH.

This project does not call for the displacement of any families, businesses or individuals.

Twenty-seven individuals attended the hearing. Sixteen written comment sheets were received during the comment period and two oral comments were received at the hearing. Of the 16 providing written comments 10 supported the project, four supported the project with modifications, and two did not support the project.

The following is a summary of the comments received:

Concern For Excessive Speed on Breezewood Drive and Route 501

This is the City's responsibility and the Police Department will be made aware of the concern over speeding through this area.

Concern For Impacts to Drainfields

During the right-of-way negotiations stage the City will address these issues, and if the drainfields cannot be saved, the City will connect the residences to the City Sewer System.

Concern For Grade along Ditch Lines Related to Maintenance and Mowing

The grade of the slope through these areas is 2:1 and 2 ½:1. These are well within the VDOT design standards but the City will consider a flatter slope if the modification does not have an adverse impact to utilities or easements.

Concern For Impacts to Residents During Construction and the Need For a Temporary Traffic Signal on Route 501 For Trucks During Construction

Access to properties will be maintained throughout the construction phase of the project. A temporary traffic signal is not considered as necessary for the maintenance of traffic during construction.

Concern for Transportation Issues Outside Current Project Limits

There were several concerns raised regarding sidewalks, deceleration lanes on Route 501, limited visibility on Route 501 from Breezewood Drive north toward Lakeside Drive, streetlights and traffic signal at Breezewood Drive and Route 501, and traffic congestion at Route 221 and Route 501 once Lakeside Center is built, all of which are either outside of the limits for this project or are not being considered with this project. While the City feels that some of these concerns are certainly valid it was carefully explained to the citizens at the hearing exactly what was being developed a part of this project. The possible elimination of the existing connection of Breezewood Drive to 501S is included with the proposed Lakeside Drive 501S interchange project. This will address the cut through traffic issue and the concern over the safety of this existing connection while both entering and exiting the expressway. The public will have opportunity to comment on this proposal at the public hearing for the proposed interchange project as well as how projected increases in traffic volumes are accounted for in the proposed design.

Concern For Increased Traffic and Cut Through Traffic On Breezewood Drive and Emergency Vehicle Access If Breezewood Drive is Blocked.

The proposed improvements are designed to accommodate the projected traffic volumes. The City also assured the public that the project will not have an adverse affect on emergency vehicle access. The possible elimination of the existing connection of Breezewood Drive to 501S is included with the proposed Lakeside Drive 501S interchange project. This will address the cut through traffic issue and the public will have opportunity to comment on this proposal at the public hearing for the proposed interchange project.

Concern For Relocation of Heritage Baptist Church Sign and Points of Entry

The City will work with the Heritage Baptist Church during the right-of-way negotiations phase to reach agreement on placement of the sign. The Church currently has three entrances and with the roadway improvements they will have two additional entrances. The City will continue to work with the Church to address any concerns they may have regarding access.

Concern For the Relocation of Power Poles

The City will work with the utility companies and the affected property owners to address any concerns regarding placement of the utility poles.

As indicated in the Council Resolution dated September 26, 2006, the City recommends approval of the location and major design features of this project. It is the City's desire to begin acquisition of the required right-of-way in January 2007 and advertise for construction in the Spring of 2007.

Sincerely,
City of Lynchburg

Dee Dee Conner, P.E.
Principal Engineer - Project Manager